



Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition



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Cooperating with Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

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For the week ending May 17, 2015
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Spotty Showers

There were 4.5 **days suitable for fieldwork** during the week ending May 17th, 2015, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Although storms dropped less rain than expected, planting was slowed in some areas but statewide planting remains well ahead of normal for mid-May. Temperatures were slightly below average for all but a few counties, with temperatures dropping to the 20s in some areas mid-week.

Due to variable precipitation, soil moisture levels rose in some areas but fell in others. **Topsoil moisture** was rated 24 percent short to very short compared to 27 percent last week. Statewide, **subsoil moistures** were 28 percent short to very short compared to 31 percent last week.

As of May 17th, **spring tillage** was 90 percent complete statewide, over 2 weeks ahead of last year and the five-year average.

Eighty-five percent of the state's expected **corn** acres have been planted, the highest percentage planted by this date since 2000, when 88 percent of the crop had been planted. Corn emerged was 41 percent, almost two weeks ahead of last year and 9 days ahead of the five-year average.

Soybeans planted was at 50 percent complete, the second highest percent by this date in more than 35 years. Soybeans emerged was 9 percent, one week ahead of the five-year average.

Oats planted was at 96 percent complete, over three weeks ahead of last year and more than two weeks ahead of the five-year average. Oats emerged was 82 percent.

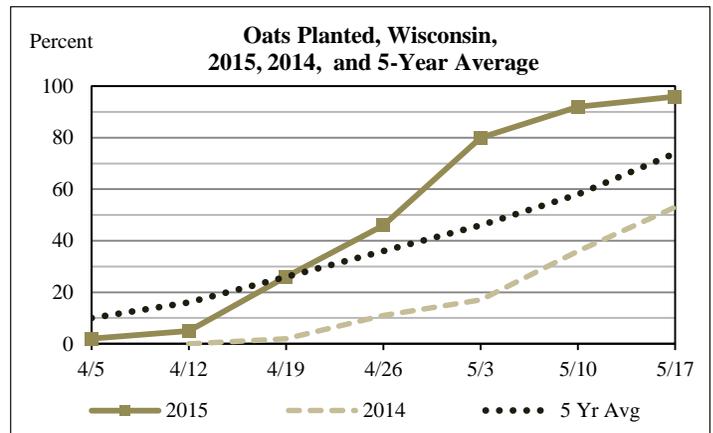
Potatoes planted neared completion in some districts, reaching 94 percent statewide.

Pasture condition improved week-over-week again with 69 percent rated good to excellent compared to 65 percent last week.

Winter wheat condition was 70 percent in good to excellent, up one percentage point from the previous week.

All Hay Condition remained at 78 percent good to excellent.

A reporter in Rock County noted that **rye** is being harvested for hay.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of May 17, 2015

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|-----------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|
| | Percent | | | | |
| Hay, All | 2 | 4 | 16 | 59 | 19 |
| Oats | 0 | 0 | 17 | 67 | 16 |
| Pasture & Range | 1 | 7 | 23 | 56 | 13 |
| Winter Wheat | 1 | 6 | 23 | 53 | 17 |

Wisconsin Crop Progress as of May 17, 2015

| Crop and percent of acreage | District average | | | | | | | | | State average | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|----|----|----|----|------|----|----|------|---------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| | NW | NC | NE | WC | C | EC | SW | SC | SE | This week | Last week | Last year | 5-year average |
| | Percent | | | | | | | | | Percent | | | |
| Corn planted | 80 | 89 | 82 | 87 | 82 | 91 | 80 | 88 | 87 | 85 | 69 | 34 | 53 |
| Corn emerged | 48 | 36 | 32 | 42 | 46 | 51 | 31 | 40 | 55 | 41 | 9 | 1 | 14 |
| Oats planted | 93 | 93 | 90 | 98 | 99 | 99 | 99 | 98 | 99 | 96 | 92 | 53 | 74 |
| Oats emerged | 80 | 79 | 80 | 84 | 83 | 80 | 82 | 91 | 85 | 82 | 56 | 24 | 49 |
| Potatoes planted | 92 | 78 | 77 | 99 | 99 | n.a. | 91 | 80 | n.a. | 94 | 91 | 65 | n.a. |
| Soybeans planted | 45 | 61 | 61 | 53 | 51 | 60 | 31 | 50 | 51 | 50 | 25 | 7 | 20 |
| Soybeans emerged | 6 | 7 | 1 | 11 | 15 | 14 | 10 | 7 | 13 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Spring tillage complete | 85 | 94 | 91 | 94 | 92 | 95 | 92 | 83 | 88 | 90 | 81 | 44 | 65 |

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of May 17, 2015

| Item | District average | | | | | | | | | State average | | |
|------------------|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------------|-----------|-----------|
| | NW | NC | NE | WC | C | EC | SW | SC | SE | This week | Last week | Last Year |
| | Days | | | | | | | | | Days | | |
| Days Suitable | 3.3 | 3.3 | 5.6 | 3.5 | 5.9 | 5.4 | 4.6 | 4.7 | 4.1 | 4.5 | 4.8 | 3.6 |
| | Percent | | | | | | | | | Percent | | |
| Topsoil Moisture | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Very Short | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 |
| Short | 13 | 6 | 33 | 13 | 34 | 33 | 32 | 27 | 9 | 23 | 24 | 3 |
| Adequate | 78 | 92 | 66 | 77 | 60 | 65 | 66 | 66 | 83 | 73 | 70 | 66 |
| Surplus | 7 | 2 | 1 | 10 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 3 | 3 | 31 |
| Subsoil Moisture | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Very Short | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 10 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 0 |
| Short | 19 | 12 | 22 | 22 | 33 | 31 | 34 | 33 | 20 | 26 | 28 | 5 |
| Adequate | 74 | 86 | 76 | 74 | 65 | 66 | 63 | 56 | 75 | 71 | 68 | 77 |
| Surplus | 5 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 18 |

Wisconsin Crop Progress

Selected Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

All comments are used in creating this report, but only a few are published below.

CHIPPEWA-T.P.: Alfalfa is looking good. Dandelions, yellow rocket and shepherd's purse are common this year and they are beginning to bloom. Early planted corn is in the VE stage. Emergence looks very even. Annual broadleaf weeds are 1 to 2 inches tall and grasses are just emerging. Soybean planting is winding down. No-till fields have an abundance of weeds that will need herbicide applications soon.

RUSK-G.P.: Some progress during the week, but wet weather continues. Rain on Sunday and colder temps will make a slow start to next week. Frost predicted for the next couple nights. Oats are looking good and 1st hay will be ready to cut soon. Corn coming up is yellow and have heard of some beans up already.

CLARK-A.K.J.: Hay fields have more damage than first assumed, wheel tracks from last fall are showing up big time. Fields that have corn stalks or corn crop still have wet spots. Frost on Wednesday morning did not do any good. The corn is very yellow. I don't know yet if the beans that were up are going to be alright or not. Need warm weather that is steady from one day to the next.

PRICE-D.E.: Wet weather hampered planting operations to a point, but many fields were able to be planted. Some are holding off planting soybeans at the time. Winter kill on alfalfa fields is more obvious with many fields to be plowed down. Other hay looks good along with winter crops. Warm weather helped growth process.

LANGLADE-A.K.: Not much rain, just enough to keep conditions good.

SHAWANO-J.N.: Great planting progress this week. We missed out on any rainfall this past weekend, could use some.

DUNN-M.B.: Increased rainfall this past week, pasture and crop conditions should improve.

TREMPEALEAU-L.N.: Row crop planting is way ahead of usual. Alfalfa fields are nearing optimum relative feed value for cutting putting pressure on dairy farmers. Some spotty frost this past week.

WAUPACA-D.L.H.: Very favorable weather has allowed most of the crops to be planted. Early planted corn has emerged, oats looks good. Alfalfa growth is slow due to dry conditions. Overall, spring of 2015 has been much better than the last years.

WOOD-B.E.: Temperatures were right around normal this past week, and we saw about 0.50 inch of rain. We are approximately 3.00 inches short on rainfall for the year so far, but have been able to sprinkle irrigate to make up for it, and the cranberry vines look good.

FOND DU LAC-B.B.: A cool week with three rounds of light showers (totaling 0.45 inches) allowed the planting and tillage to continue. Alfalfa and wheat made great strides.

VERNON-K.L.: Cooler temperatures, windy, sporadic rain, and cloudy this week. Light frost one day this week that nipped some of the alfalfa. First of the soybeans planted this week. Small grains looking good. Farmers still hauling manure and working ground when possible.

DODGE-R.J.: It was a great week for getting work done in the fields.

GREEN-M.M.: Corn is almost all planted, with about 50 percent of the fields already emerged. About 75 percent of the soybeans are planted. Alfalfa looks very good and harvest on some fields will start next week.

OZAUKEE-G.S.: Producers made a lot of progress in the fields again last week. Crops are looking good. Producers will probably start making hay this week.

WALWORTH-N.W.: A lot of gray rainy days but not much accumulation. Not too much planting left to do, but hard to finish when it showers every other day. Good weather for getting crops out of the ground.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on May 17, 2015

| City | Temperature | | | | | | Growing degree days (modified base 50) 1/ | | Precipitation | | | | |
|------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|----------|------|-------------------------|---|--------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| | Avg. max. | Avg. min. | High max. | Low min. | Avg. | Avg. dep. from normal * | Mar. 1 to May 16 | Mar. 1 to May 16 normal* | Last Week | Since Mar. 1 | Mar. 1 dep. from normal * | Year to date | Year dep. from normal * |
| Eau Claire | 64 | 45 | 80 | 33 | 54 | -2 | 394 | 264 | 92 | 582 | -0.64 | 6.41 | -1.91 |
| Green Bay | 62 | 44 | 72 | 36 | 53 | -2 | 328 | 218 | 78 | 352 | -2.34 | 4.51 | -3.54 |
| La Crosse | 67 | 49 | 81 | 37 | 58 | -1 | 500 | 313 | 63 | 667 | -0.42 | 7.89 | -1.39 |
| Madison | 66 | 46 | 80 | 33 | 56 | 0 | 426 | 307 | 21 | 621 | -1.01 | 7.62 | -2.14 |
| Milwaukee | 60 | 43 | 75 | 37 | 51 | -3 | 264 | n.a. | 23 | 696 | -1.04 | 8.70 | -2.74 |

1/ Formula used: GDD = (daily maximum (86°) + daily minimum (50°))/2-50°; where 86° is used if the maximum exceeds 86° and 50° is used if the minimum falls below 50°. *Normal based on 1971-2000 data. n.a.=not available. T=trace Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>.

For more weather data, please reference the following sites: <http://www.noaa.gov/> <http://www.aos.wisc.edu/~sco/> <http://www.cocorahs.org/> <http://www.weather.gov/>

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